"The South 40"
by JAMES A. SMITH
EXTENSION AGENT

The phone rang early this morning and one of our good farmers asked if it was too early to start planting corn. We both agreed that probably it was, but the unseasonably high temperature suggests that spring can't be far away.

* * *

This week you should receive through the mail a copy of "Field Crop Varieties for 1976". Use this publication; it can make a difference in yields. You'll want to study it closely and that means reading the small print.

For instance you'll discover that Kenstar Red Clover has better disease resistance and will be more persistant than other Red Clover varieties. Or if you're going to add a white clover to your tall grass pasture your selection should be Tillman rather than Ladino. Now, Tillman will cost about a quarter more per pound, but it has more disease resistance and will, therefore, stay in your pasture longer. You will only be using a pound of clover per acre so what's a quarter per acre added cost if it stays in the stand an extra year or two. It will make you money.

* * *

The Fire Cured Tobacco Market closed with a production of 4.8 million pounds averaging $92.65 per hundred. This represents an increase of $11.13 over last year. This crop with a value of nearly 4.5 million dollars is one that we need to promote and use to increase farm incomes in 1976.

* * *

Every Flue Cured Tobacco grower should make plans to attend the Tobacco, Farm Equipment and Services Exposition at Clarksville on March 10 and 11. It's been eight years since we've had a similar program in Virginia and there's been a lot of change. This will be a quick way of seeing what's new.

* * *

Did you know that fertilizer sales were down significantly last fall? Probably many farmers delayed their purchases hoping that prices would decline further. There's not much chance that we'll see any significant price changes before planting time. Let's face it, there's no way the fertilizer industry can deliver all of your fertilizer requirement on the day or week you need it if everybody waits until planting time. Actually there are some yield advantages to plowing down corn or soybean fertilizer now. It's not too early to start topdressing small grain and pasture are in great need of fertilizer. With two years of depressed cattle prices many beef cattlemen have just let their pastures drift. Most indicators would suggest an upward movement in cattle prices. This spring should be the year to lime, fertilize and re-establish clover in pastures. A lot of people have pointed out the amount of broomstraw that's appearing in pastures. The reason is simply we aren't keeping the desirable grasses and clovers competitive and this takes lime and fertilizer.

* * *

There is some buyer dissatisfaction being expressed about the lack of flavor in Virginia 309 and some other improved varieties of Dark Tobacco. Our research people feel it may be weather conditions.

We're looking for a cooperator to grow six varieties in 1976. A bonus payment equal to 15 percent of the gross value of the crop, not to exceed $300 per acre. Arrangements for additional acreage can be made. Let us know if you would be interested in working with us.

PRECIPITATION:

Last Week	0
This Month	2.04
This Year	7.85

Becky McIntosh, "Calf Champion" at the Eastern National Livestock Exposition in Timmonion, Maryland of the 4-H Junior Show. Becky's calf was champion over 23 other calves of the same age.

PRESENTS CHECK TO HELP FINANCE ANNUAL MEETING

/F. L. Eggleston, left, Vice President, Fidelity National Bank, presents a check for $50.00 to J. A. Smith, Extension Agent. This money will be used by the Virginia Association Extension Agents in hosting the annual meeting of National Association County Agricultural Agents in Richmond August 15-19th.

The annual meeting of NACAA is an important professional training program for Extension Agents, Smith said.

Masonic Lodge And Members Honored At The Virginia Grand Lodge

The annual Communication of the Virginia Masonic Grand Lodge of AF&AM was held in Richmond on Feb. 9, 10 and 11th and during the communication the members of Monroe Lodge No. 301 of Appomatox were honored with an award and two of its members were appointed to represent the Grand Lodge.

On Feb. 9, Dr. Seymour J. Levy, Grand Master for 1975, presented C. M. Franklin, Master of Monroe Lodge for 1976 with a plaque honoring the members of Monroe Lodge for winning the James Noah Hillsman Memorial Award. This award was given to the lodge for excellence in Masonic Education, Ritual, Philanthropy and Administration.

On Jan. 10, 1976 L. Douglas Delano, Grand Master for 1976, appointed C. O. Rhodenizer a District Deputy Grand Master for the 26th Masonic District. The counties of Appomattox, Prince Edward, Cumberland and the City of Farmville, composed the 26th District. Rhodenizer is a Past Master of Monroe Lodge.

On Jan. 11, 1976 Delano appointed W. Dean Conner to the Grand Lodge Committee on work and assigned him to the Southern Region. The Southern Region extends from Lynchburg to Amelia County and includes the counties therein. Conner is a Past Master of Monroe Lodge and a Past District Deputy Grand Master.

E. C. Riner and W. (Bill) H. Moore also attended the Grand Lodge.

Seminars At Presbyterian Church

Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church will hear the Rev. "Sam" Zealy of Farmville as he leads the Second Semmar on Bible Doctrine that are held by the Presbyterian Church. His subject for this week will be "The Sovereignty of God."

This is the second in the series of lectures the first was lead by Mr. John Steedly, a Presbyterian Elder and a member of the Session of the Appomattox Church. His subject was "The History of the Church."

These seminars will continue through April 1, each Thursday night, except on Friday March 5. They will feature outstanding speakers of the area. The schedule is as follows: Thurs., Feb. 19 - "The Sovereignty of God" - Rev. Sam Zealy, Minister, Farmville Presbyterian Church; Thurs., Feb. 26 - "The Infallibility of Sufficiency of Scripture" - Rev. James M. McNair, Minister, New Concord Presbyterian Church; Fri., March 5 - "Salvation - One Plan" - Rev. Stephen Crotts, Minister, Village Presbyterian Church; Thurs., Mar. 11 - "Doctrine of Man - Fall-Depravity - Dignity, Rev. Norman Wilhelm, Minister, Amherst Presbyterian Church; Thurs., Mar. 18 - "Assurance of Salvation", Rev. Ron Glover, Minister, Northminster Presbyterian Church; Thurs. Mar. 25 - "Gowing in Grace Santifacation", Rev. Lowell B. Sykes, Minister, Rivermont Presbyterian Church) Thurs., April 1, "Predestination and Election", Rev. Sam Zealy, Farmville Presbyterian Church.

Preceding each lecture period will be a "Pot Lunch Supper" beginning at 6:30 with a period of Christian fellowship. The lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. Anyone who is interested is invited to come and hear these speakers.

Tobacco Vote

Fire-cured tobacco growers will vote in a mail referendum to be held Feb. 23-27, inclusive on marketing quotas for the next three crops, James R. Ford, Jr., Chairman of the Appomattox County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Committee, announced today.

Ballots may be returned to the county ASCS office by mail or in person anytime during the period Feb. 23-27, but if in person, must be brought to the county office no later than 5 p.m., Feb. 27 or, if mailed, must be postmarked no later than midnight, Feb. 27.

Growers eligible to vote in the referendum are all those 18 years of age or older who were entitled to share in the crop, or the proceeds thereof, on a farm with a fire-cured allotment in 1975 provided that: (1) such person shared in the risks of production; (2) the crop was planted in a workmanlike manner for harvest (if not harvested, the reasons for failure to harvest were for reasons beyond his control); and (3) if the crop was not planted, it was considered planted for allotment history.

TESTING...

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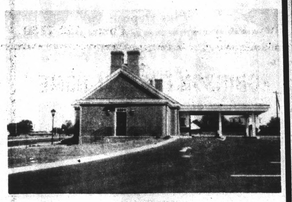

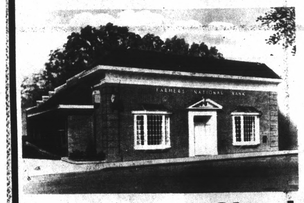

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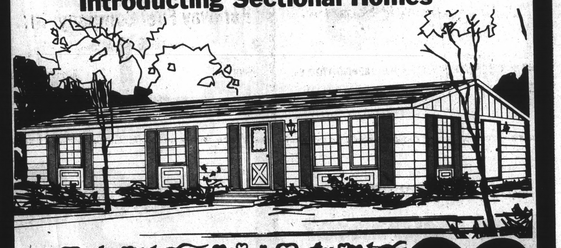

Sweetheart Special SALE
Big 3 Bedroom Special
also 1975 Model - 3 Bedroom, Washer and Dryer reduced $2000.00
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Several More Super Bargains on NEW 1975-1976 models.
For each of the first five (5) new deals closed by Feb. 24, Ward's will give a choice of a Lane Sweetheart Chest or a Honeymooner Decor Kit

VA & FHA Financing Available
Ward Mobile Home Sales, Inc.
Rt. 29 South - Lynchburg, Va.
Phone 239-1632

Bloodmobile Visit - -

Tuesday, February 24th

Noon to 6 p.m. — Liberty Baptist Church

102 Units Needed To Reach Quota

Plan To Donate Tuesday

The Following Merchants

Support The Blood Program In Appomattox County

And Urge You To Donate A Unit Of Blood

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Sales and Service
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PHONE 352-8221
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